



Department of Defense Intellectual Property Forum 2023

Dr. Kelly Alexander

Chief Systems Engineer, System Innovation



Dr. Kelly Alexander is the Chief Systems Engineer at System Innovation. She has over 35 years of experience in systems engineering and project management. Early in her career, Dr. Alexander was one of the first African American US Army engineering interns. As a US Department of Defense civilian, she served as the Director of Systems Engineering Policy and Program Support, Director for Common Operating Environment at HQ US Army, and spearheaded the transition of modular software into the US Army's tactical software. She also led the Army's digital transformation and modular open systems using open standards and open architectures.

As a White House Leadership Fellow, she served as the Senior Technical Advisor for the Federal Permitting Council. Dr. Alexander is a three-time recipient of the Superior Civilian Service Award and two-time recipient of the Commander's Award for Civilian Service. Dr. Alexander earned a PhD in Systems Engineering from George Washington University, master's degrees from George Washington University (Systems Engineering) and National Defense University (National Resource Strategy), and a bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering from NC State University.